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B O R O U G H   O F   L Y D D   K E N T

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

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BOROUGH OF LYDD (KENT)

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH AND SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE  
YEAR 1954.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1954.

According to the Registrar General's estimate, the Home Population at mid-year was 2,600, that is an increase by five over that of the preceding year.

The number of births was 42, compared with 44 in the preceding year, and the birth-rate was accordingly 16.15; this was slightly higher than that for England and Wales which appears to be becoming stabilised around 15 births per 1,000 resident population.

There were two still-births. The actual causes of still-births are very complicated and difficult to crystallize but it is recognised from experience in Hospital practice that careful ante-natal and obstetric attention can keep the numbers down to an unavoidable minimum.

It is very gratifying that there was no death amongst infants - and none amongst mothers due to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion. Having regard to the remarkable modern advance in medical science and its application to the prevention and treatment of disease, appreciation of the attainment of this desired objective may be expressed to the Practitioners, Midwife and Health Visitor who are engaged in the Midwifery and Child Welfare Services. Excellent work is done at the Child Welfare Centre, where any observer must be impressed by the nutrition, health and vitality of the babies, with very few exceptions, to be seen there. The work of the Health Visitor amongst the babies and toddlers in their homes and in the clinics, although unobtrusive and unspectacular, is of the greatest value and does much to ensure that each baby born into a family has, as far as is possible, a healthy beginning in life.

There were only 19 deaths (9 male, 10 female) and the crude-death rate was accordingly low, i.e. 7.31 per 1,000 resident population; when adjusted by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, which standardises the rate for comparison with other Districts the rate becomes 7.38; that for England and Wales was 11.3.

Amongst those relatively few deaths, the major cause was Heart, Circulatory or Vascular Diseases which as they occurred mostly amongst the very aged should be regarded as a normal eventuality.

There were only two deaths from Cancer and none from Cancer of the Lung which has been increasing in incidence throughout the Country. Treatment can successfully overcome the disease if an early diagnosis is established.

The other causes of death were miscellaneous and there was no unusual cause.



There was no outbreak of infectious disease, apart from a small outbreak of Whooping Cough, 50 cases having been notified and there were no deaths. It is to be hoped that the claims made by manufacturers that their new vaccines are effective immunising agents will be substantiated by the Medical Research Council, as this would be the only effective method of controlling the disease and that it will take a routine place by the side of Diphtheria immunisation in the Infant Welfare Clinics and in the Doctors' surgeries.

12 cases of Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia were notified but there were no deaths from this cause. When a provisional diagnosis of A-typical Pneumonia is made Q fever should be kept in mind.

An investigation sponsored by the Medical Research Council and by the University of Cambridge and headed by Dr. B. P. Marmion, into the endemicity or prevalence of Q fever in the Marsh was completed at the end of the year. It was conclusively proved by serological (blood) examination taken from patients who were suspected as having suffered from Q fever, that this illness does occur throughout the Marsh, and that sheep are the chief reservoir of infection, although as far as is known they do not suffer from any recognisable form of disease caused by the organism concerned (*R. burnetii*). The illness is sporadic and does not usually assume the form of an epidemic. Most cases have occurred about the time of the lambing season and the Rickettsiae have been isolated from the placentae (after-births). The organisms are also conveyed by dust and ticks. For confirmation of the diagnosis, blood may be sent for serological examination before the 10th day and after the 14th day of illness to the Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London, N.W.9. Q fever, per se, is not an illness that is usually dangerous to life and treatment with modern Antibiotics is highly successful.

Three new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified. Arrangements have been made for the Mass Radiography Unit to visit the Borough in 1955, although it is unlikely that there is any latent reservoir of infection in the Borough. Two of the new cases were employed in work away from the Borough, and from investigations made after their notification, it would appear that they had become infected during their employment.

There were no new cases of Non-respiratory or Bovine Tuberculosis which is an index that the milk supplies of the Borough which are pasteurised or Tuberculin-tested, have been well safe-guarded.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you for your interest and assistance in the work of the Department and the staff for their loyal and efficient co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. MARSHALL.

SECTION A.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR 1954

Area:- 11,932 acres

Registrar-General's Estimate of  
the Resident Population:- 2,600

Number of Inhabited Houses According  
to the Rate Books:- 1,056

Rateable Value:- £20,432

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate:- £75 (Approx.)

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Social Conditions.

Lydd is a very ancient and historical Borough being mentioned in Saxon Charters from 740 onwards and is a limb of the Cinque Ports. It is predominantly agricultural being chiefly concerned with sheep and cattle raising and arable farming. There are also extensive beach quarrying and crushing plants within the District. Of the Sub-Districts, Dungeness is devoted to the fishing industry and Greatstone, where there is a large holiday camp, and Lydd-on-Sea cater chiefly for holiday-makers. Lydd also contains a large permanent Army Artillery Practice Camp and a proportion of the civilians are employed there. There is almost no unemployment and by and large social conditions are satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

		<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>		<u>Lydd Borough</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
1.	Live Births	42	23	19	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	16.15	15.2
	(a) Legitimate	40	22	18			
	(b) Illegitimate	2	1	1			
2.	Stillbirths	2	2	-	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	45.45	24.0
	(a) Legitimate	2	2	-			
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
3.	Deaths	19	9	10	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	7.31	11.3
4.	Deaths from Pregnancy Childbirth and Abortion.	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	-	Not available
5.	Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age	-	-	-			
	(a) Legitimate	-	-	-			
	(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births					-	25.5
	Rate re legitimate infants					-	
	Rate re illegitimate infants					-	
6.	Deaths from Cancer (all ages)					2	
	Deaths from Measles (all ages)					-	
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)					-	
	Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea					-	

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The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year 1954.

Whooping Cough	...	...	50
Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1



CAUSES OF DEATH IN LYDD BOROUGH

DURING 1954

ALL CAUSES				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
				9	10
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	-	-
0.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	-	-
1.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	-	-
2.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	-	1
3.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	-	-
4.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	1	-
5.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	-	-
6.	Diabetes	...	...	-	-
7.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	1	5
8.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	1	2
9.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	-	-
0.	Other heart disease	...	...	2	1
1.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	-	-
2.	Influenza	...	...	-	-
3.	Pneumonia	...	...	-	-
4.	Bronchitis	...	...	1	-
5.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	-	-
6.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	-	-
7.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	-	-
8.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	-	-
9.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	-
0.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	-	-
1.	Congenital malformations	...	...	-	-
2.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	1	1
3.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	-	-
4.	All other accidents	...	...	1	-
5.	Suicide	...	...	-	-
6.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	-	-

# Immunisation against Diphtheria, 1954

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1954, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1940).

Year of Birth	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1950 - 1954	1	4	8	34	12	28	43	27	46	42	43	46	32	42	5	413
1949 or earlier	19	15	15	13	14	1	-	-	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	87

## Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox, 1954.

The following is a return of (A) the number of children resident in the Borough of Lydd who were immunised against diphtheria and (B) the number of persons who were vaccinated against smallpox, during the year ended 31st December, 1954.

### (A) Diphtheria Immunisation

Year of Birth	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	Total
Primary Inoculations	5	38	5	1	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
Re-inforcing Inoculations	-	-	-	-	1	35	5	1	4	1	-	24	-	-	-	71

### (B) Vaccination

	27	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	Before Total 1940
Primary Vaccination																45
Re-Vaccination	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality 1954

Age Periods	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>				<u>Total Cases on Register</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### 1. Water Supply

- (a) The water has been satisfactory in quantity and quality except in one instance (See (d) below).
- (b) Samples of water for bacteriological analysis are taken monthly and for chemical analysis twice yearly.
- (c) The water is not plumbo-solvent.
- (d) Arising out of a complaint, a sample of water was taken and found to contain mosquito larvae, which were pronounced by the County Pathologist as harmless although objectionable. The Folkestone Waterworks Company were informed and took prompt steps to remedy the nuisance.

#### Drainage and Sewerage

The sewerage scheme for the drainage of the post-war housing estate continues to operate satisfactorily. Sewage is carried partly by gravitation and partly by pumping to the Sewage Works situated on the outskirts of the town. No further steps have been taken to extend the sewerage scheme within the Borough owing to the high cost which would be involved.

#### 2. Rivers and Streams

No action has been necessary during the year in connection with the pollution of rivers and streams.

#### 3. (i) Closet Accommodation

Almost all the houses in the Borough are provided with water closets drainage either to the public sewer or to cesspools.

#### (ii) Public Cleansing

(a) House Refuse. A weekly collection of house refuse is maintained by the Council workmen and the refuse is disposed of at the authorised tip on the outskirts of the town.

(b) Trade Refuse. In addition to the removal of house refuse the Council carry out regular additional collections of refuse from a holiday camp during the summer and from a military camp in the winter.

(c) Salvage. Salvage is collected at the same time as house refuse, but a separate collection is made from shops. An incentive bonus is paid to the Council workmen, and during the year 23 tons. 14 cwts. of salvaged paper were sold to the Waste Paper Mills.

## SECTION D.

### Housing

A new programme of 18 houses was commenced, and 6 of these were completed during the year.

Four dwellings were completed by private enterprise in the Borough during the year.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk Supply

Number of Milk Producers	2
Number of Retail Purveyors	2
Number of Retailers who are not Cowkeepers in the Borough	2
Number of Dealers Licences in Pasteurised Milk	2
Number of Dealers in Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
Number of Registered Distributors	2

(b) Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

Food preparing premises are inspected regularly to ensure a satisfactory standard of hygiene.

During the year 158 lbs. beef; 5 lbs. pork and 69 tins of varied foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

In July, Silver City Airways opened a Civil Airport within the Borough, and during the period of the Dock Strike, considerable quantities of freight, including foodstuffs were imported. These foodstuffs were all subjected to inspection under the Imported Food Regulations.

(c) Adulteration, Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Foods.

The local authority is not a Food & Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, this work being carried out by the Kent County Council.

Samples of Milk, ice cream and water are, however, taken by the Borough Council for bacteriological analysis.

(d) Nutrition

No special work in the dissemination of knowledge on this subject has been considered necessary.

(e) Shell-fish (Molluscan)

There are no shell-fish gathered for sale in the Borough.



Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	-	-	-	22	1
No. inspected	-	-	-	22	1
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-			2	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	-	-	-	9%	
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises  (1)	Number on Reg- ister  (2)	Number of			Occu Pros  (5)
		Inspec- tions  (3)	Written Notices  (4)		
i. Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	6	-		
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	11	11	-		
iii. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-		
TOTAL	17	17	-		

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted (6)
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
of cleanliness (S.1.)...	-	-	-	-	-
crowding (S.2) ...	-	-	-	-	-
asonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
uate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
ective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	-	-	-	-	-
ary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
) Insufficient ...	-	-	-	-	-
) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
) Not reparate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
offences against the not including offences ing to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

